INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF HILTON BEACH

**MINUTES**

# Council Meeting – November 13, 2024

 **6:00 PM**

**Council Chambers, Hilton Beach Municipal Office**

3100 Bowker Street, Hilton Beach, Ontario

**PRESENT**

Council: Robert Hope; Mayor

Brian Delvecchio; Councillor

Sally Cohen; Councillor

Sarah Brown; Councillor

Kelly Rathwell; Councillor

Staff: Myra Eddy; Clerk Treasurer

**CALL TO ORDER**

2024- 191 Moved by Kelly Rathwell

 Seconded by Sarah Brown

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do call the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

 CARRIED

**DECLARATIONS of PECUNIARY INTEREST**

No declarations were made.

**DELEGATIONS**

No delegations

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2024-192 Moved by Sarah Brown

 Seconded by Brian Delvecchio

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Council meeting of October 9th, 2024 as presented.

 CARRIED

**VOUCHERS**

The Vouchers were presented.

2024-193 Moved by Kelly Rathwell

 Seconded by Sally Cohen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council approve Township Voucher 2024-10 in the amount of $91,993.95 (Administration-$20,908.17, Algoma Power-$6,839.34 Bell -phones-$783.90, Hall-$7052.53 ,Ontario Clean Water Agency-$24,292.99, GFL Recycling-$2584.03, Tullochs-Building Assessment-$6,582.25 , Policing - $3959.00, Public Works/Roads-$3,136.84, Recreation-$1,033.07, Algoma District Social Services -$6,886.42, Village of Hilton Beach Garbage pick-up-summer-$2680.00, Computer/internet $195.57, Office supplies- $145.77, Algoma Office Equipment -$102.22, Municipal Property Assessment Corp Levy-$1615.87, Sage Accounting renewal -$2133.44, Library-$563.32, HR Peninsula - $499.22,

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2024-194 Moved by Brian Delvecchio

 Seconded by Sally Cohen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council approve Marina Voucher 2024-10 in the amount of $15,662.74 ( Lock City-$115.75, Sterling Crane -$10,312.38, Wages/deductions-$4475.36, Bell Canada-$120.06 and Algoma Power-$639.19.

 CARRIED

The Clerk’s Report was presented.

1. The office will be closed from December 23rd to January 3rd, 2025.
2. A new household garbage pit is needed at the landfill
3. To schedule interviews for the Deputy-Clerk position
4. An application was made to NOHFC’s Intern program

2024-195 Moved by Kelly Rathwell

 Seconded by Sarah Brown

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Clerk’s Report of November 13, 2024 be accepted as presented.

 CARRIED

2024-196 Moved by Sarah Brown

 Seconded by Kelly Rathwell

BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Hilton Beach Council do authorize the Hiring Committee to hold interviews for the Deputy-Clerk position. CARRIED.

The Public Work’s report was presented.

1. Ledcor provided a new 2024-2025 contract for salt and sand. The price is $50.00 per cubic meter for the first 500 cubic meters. This is an increase of $4.13 from 2023.
2. Stobies Mechanical is to have a grader available for plowing. Sanding will still be done.
3. Attended meeting with Algoma Power Road’s Superintendent meeting. They discussed pole replacements on Mark’s Street

2024-197 Moved by Brian Delvecchio

 Seconded by Sarah Brown

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Public Work’s Report of November 13 , 2024 be accepted as presented.

2024-198 Moved by Sarah Brown

 Seconded by Brian Delvecchio

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Village of Hilton Beach will sign the contract with Ledcor to provide sand and salt for the 2024-2025 winter season.

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**PREVIOUS BUSINESS**

A quick review of the recent sold out fundraising Pasta Supper was done. It was calculated to raise $4000.00 to go toward the kitchen renovations at the hall. The committee was appreciative of all the support.

The Community Emergency Management Coordinator, Jeff Edwards had updated the Emergency Plan. The by-law also needed to be updated.

A letter of response was received from the St. Joseph Island Club regarding Council’s request of support for the hall. The Lion’s Club asked that this letter be reviewed and replied to by each point. The Lion’s Club and council members discussed the fundraising dance and the letter and that a written reply to their to their letter was not necessary . However, a letter will be sent regarding rental fees and usage.

The Urban Hen notice will be put out as it will be passed at the December 11th council meeting.

2024-199 Moved by Kelly Rathwell

 Seconded by Sarah Brown

BE IT RESOLVED that we do amend the schedule to By-Law 2024-13, being a by-law to authorize an agreement for the Joint Management and Operations of a Fire Department.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Greenstone Environmental Engineering provided a copy of the Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Program for Council to review.

 CARRIED

2024-200 Moved by Brian Delvecchio

 Seconded by Kelly Rathwell

 BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approves Greenstone Environmental Engineering Groundwater and Surface Monitoring Program for the Hilton Landfil site.

 CARRIED

The Ontario Provincial Police provided the 2025 Annual Billing Statement. It will be $4,893 per month for a total of $58,717 for the year. This is an increase of about 21% or $11,210.00 more than last year.

The Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) allocation for 2025 will be $221,500. An increase of $46,900 from last year.

**MAYOR/COUNCILLOR ITEMS**

2024-201 Moved by Robert Hope

 Seconded by Kelly Rathwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Village of Hilton Beach Council appoint Councillor Sarah Brown to sit on the East Algoma O.P.P Detachment Board. CARRIED

A date for the Tree Lighting event was scheduled for Saturday, December 14th. Further details to be determined.

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**CORRESPONDENCE – REQUEST FOR SUPPORT**

2024-202 Moved by Kelly Rathwell

 Seconded by Sarah Brown

WHEREAS the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Health is undertaking a review of the funding approach for local public health agencies; and

WHEREAS residents of Northern Ontario in general have poorer health outcomes compared to their southern counterparts, including a more than 50% higher average avoidable mortality rate in Northern Ontario, and a 64% higher avoidable mortality rate in Algoma specifically; and

WHEREAS the *Perspectives from Northern Ontario on the Public Health Funding* review letter outlines many of the equity considerations related to the funding approach for local public health agencies in Northern Ontario;

THEREFORE THE Village of Hilton Beach Council endorses the letter and that it should be shared with appropriate agencies. CARRIED

2024-203 Moved by Kelly Rathwell

 Seconded by Sarah Brown

Whereas there is a humanitarian crisis in cities, large and small, urban and rural, across Ontario. We need immediate action at all levels of government, starting with the Province; and

Whereas the homelessness, mental health and addictions crisis continues to grow with 3432 drug related deaths in Ontario in 2023 as well as with an estimated 234,000 Ontarians experiencing homelessness and over 1400 homeless encampments across Ontario communities in 2023; and

Whereas the province has provided additional funding for mental health, addictions and homelessness programs, including the recently announced Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hubs, it does not adequately address the growing crisis and the financial and social impact on municipalities and regions across the province; and

Whereas municipalities and regions are stepping up and working with community partners to put in place community-specific solutions to address this crisis, but municipalities and regions lack the expertise, capacity, or resources to address these increasingly complex health care and housing issues alone; and

Whereas this is primarily a health issue that falls under provincial jurisdiction and municipalities and regions should not be using the property tax base to fund these programs; and

Whereas there is no provincial Minister focused on this crisis leading to unanswered questions that span over a dozen ministries, and a lack of support to manage the increasing needs of those who are unhoused.

Now Therefore be it resolved that the Village of Hilton Beach Council supports the Solve the Crisis Campaign;

And calls on provincial and federal governments to commit to immediate action to solve the Humanitarian Crisis that Ontario is facing as the numbers of unhoused individuals and those suffering with mental health & addictions grows exponentially;

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AND that the province officially makes Homelessness a Health Priority;

AND appoints a responsible Minister and Ministry with the appropriate funding and powers as a single point of contact to address the full spectrum of housing needs as well as mental health, addictions and wrap around supports;

AND request that the provincial government strike a task force with broad sector representatives including municipalities, regions, healthcare, first responders, community services, the business community and the tourism industry to develop a Made in Ontario Action Plan;

AND that this provincial task force reviews current programs developed by municipalities, regions and community partners that have proven successful in our communities, to ensure that solutions can be implemented quickly and effectively to tackle this crisis.

AND provides adequate, sufficient and sustainable funding to ensure that municipalities have the tools and resources to support individuals suffering with mental health and addictions, including unhoused people and those from vulnerable populations that may be disproportionately impacted; CARRIED

A recorded vote was requested by Councillor Sarah Brown.

2024-204 Moved by Kelly Rathwell

 Seconded by Robert Hope

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has announced the creation of highly secure facilities to provide involuntary care for individuals with severe mental health and addictions issues under the Mental Health Act, including dedicated mental health units in correctional centres and regional secure care facilities; and

WHEREAS the Town of Cobourg, along with municipalities across Ontario, are facing growing challenges in addressing the complex needs of individuals with severe mental health and addictions issues, which place a significant strain on local emergency services, healthcare systems, community resources, and public safety; and

WHEREAS individuals experiencing severe mental health and addictions issues often cannot voluntarily seek the care they need, and involuntary care, provided with compassion and appropriate safeguards, can ensure they receive the necessary treatment to help stabilize their condition and improve community safety.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Village of Beach Council supports the BC government's approach to providing secure, involuntary care for individuals with severe mental health and addictions challenges, as a compassionate and necessary intervention for those unable to seek help on their own; and

FURTHER THAT the Village of Hilton Beach Council urges the Province of Ontario to implement similar measures to ensure that individuals with severe mental health and addictions issues in Ontario have access to secure, involuntary care when necessary.

Mayor Robert Hope yes Councillor Sarah Brown no

Councillor Sally Cohen yes Councillor Brian Delvecchio yes

Councillor Kelly Rathwell yes CARRIED

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2024-205 Moved by Sarah Brown

 Seconded by Kelly Rathwell

Whereas the state of health care in Ontario is in crisis, with 2.5 million Ontarians lacking access to a family doctor, emergency room closures across the province, patients being derostered and 40% of family doctors considering retirement over the next five years; and

Whereas it has becoming increasingly challenging to attract and retain an adequate healthcare workforce throughout the health sector across Ontario; and,

Whereas Ontario municipal governments play an integral role in the health care system through responsibilities in public health, long-term care, and paramedicine; and,

Whereas the percentage of family physicians practicing comprehensive family medicine has declined from 77% in 2008 to 65% in 2022; and,

Whereas per capita health-care spending in Ontario is the lowest of all provinces in Canada; and,

Whereas a robust workforce developed through a provincial, sector-wide health human resources strategy would significantly improve access to health services across the Province; and,

Whereas these cracks in Ontario's health care system are impacting economic development, health, and well-being at the local level; and,

Whereas in response, the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) are working collaboratively to advocate for a better healthcare system for Ontario residents and communities.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That, Council of the Corporation of the Township of Springwater urge the Province of Ontario to recognize the physician shortage and to fund care appropriately and ensure every Ontarian has access to physician care; and

THEREFORE THE Village of Hilton Beach Council supports the Township’s resolution which endorses the AMO and OMA Joint Health Resolution Campaign.

 CARRIED

**CORRESPONDENCE – INFORMATION**

1. Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding no compliance issues with the Hilton Beach Drinking Water System
2. Town of Halton Hills regarding the need for the Province to update the Municipal Elections Act.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING**

2024-206 Moved by Brian Delvecchio

 Seconded by Kelly Rathwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT this Council move into closed session to consider items concerning:

ii) labour relations or employee negotiations

ii) advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose

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BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT should said closed session be adjourned, the Council may reconvene in closed session to discuss the same matters without the need for a further authorizing resolution. CARRIED

2024-207 Moved by Kelly Rathwell

 Seconded by Sally Cohen

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Village of Hilton Beach Council reconvene to open meeting at 9:22 p.m. CARRIED

2024-208 Moved by Brian Delvecchio

 Seconded by Sarah Brown

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Village of Hilton Beach Council accepts the letter written by the municipal solicitor regarding Soo Mill Road and that it be forwarded to Soo Mill Holding Limited Solicitor.

 CARRIED.

This letter states that Soo Mill Road is a private road and has not been assumed and/or dedicated to the Village of Hilton Beach. The Village has no legal obligation to maintain a private road. To ensure emergency services can be provided that this matter would be between the landowners and Soo Mill Holdings Ltd. The Hilton Union Fire Department will attend to all emergencies as needed.

**BY-LAWS**

2024-209 Moved by Sarah Brown

 Seconded by Kelly Rathwell

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do adopt By-law No 2024-22 , being a by-law to establish an Emergency Management Program and Emergency Response Plan and be given a FIRST, SECOND and THIRD READING and FINALLY PASSED this 13th day of November 2024.

2024-210 Moved by Sarah Brown

 Seconded by Sally Cohen

THAT BY-LAW NO. 2024-23, being a by-law to confirm the proceedings and resolutions of Hilton Beach Council which were adopted up to and including November 13, 2024, be given FIRST, SECOND and THIRD READING and FINALLY PASSED this 13th day of November 2024.

 CARRIED

2024-211 Moved by Brian Delvecchio

 Seconded by Kelly Rathwell

THAT the Village of Hilton Beach Council adjourn. to meet again on December 11th, 2024 or at the call of the Mayor. CARRIED.

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 Mayor, Robert Hope

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 Clerk Treasurer – Myra Eddy